



WIAP # 11-99

SUBJECT: Youth Eligibility

Statutory Reference: WIA§101(13), §129(c)(5)

WDC Review Date: 9/21/99

Effective Date: 7/1/00

BACKGROUND

The Workforce Investment Act defines an eligible youth as an individual who is ages 14 through 21, low income, and who is within one or more of the following categories:

- (1) *Deficient in basic literacy skills*
- (2) *School dropout*
- (3) *Homeless, runaway, or foster child;*
- (4) *Pregnant or parenting*
- (5) *Offender*
- (6) *Is an individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment.*

"Deficient in basic skills" and "an individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment" are not defined.

POLICY

Local boards will be responsible for defining "deficient in basic skills" and "is an individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment". The definition of "deficient in basic skills" must include a determination that an individual (a) computes or solves problems, reads, writes, or speaks English at or below grade level 8.9 or (b) is unable to compute or solve problems, read, write, or speak English at a level necessary to function on the job, in the individual's family or in society.

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